

Library Bond Act Grant Applications - Cycle 1

Office of Library Construction Findings

Project Name [Number]	Azusa City Library 1061	Current Square Footage	18,500
Applicant	Azusa, City of	Project Square Footage	60,300
Operating Library Jurisdiction	Azusa City Library	Service Area Population:	44,712
Project Type	New Library		
Project Priority	1st	Anticipated Construction Start Date:	10/1/2003
Joint Use Type	Joint Venture		
Multipurpose?	NO	Total Project Amount	\$25,938,223
Leased Site:	NO	State Grant Amount	\$14,978,062

Bond Act Factors [California Code of Regulations Title 5, Section 19998 (a)]

	Rated	Other
Needs of urban and rural areas:		[see map]
Population growth:		73%
Financial capacity of applicant to open and maintain operation of the library (new libraries only):		Yes
Age and condition of existing library:	Poor Condition (= Very Good)	
Inadequacy of the existing library in meeting needs of residents and the response of proposed project to meeting the needs:	Very Good	
Plan of Service integrates appropriate electronic technology:	Very Good	
Appropriateness of proposed site for the proposed project:	Outstanding	
Overall Rating:		Very Good

Summary of Review Panel Comments

Population Growth 73.1%

Age and Condition The library was built in 1958 and renovated in 1971. Major deficiencies of the existing library: non-compliance with ADA and seismic codes; inadequate lighting; mechanical systems at or near the end of their life cycles; in need of structural reinforcement; inadequate telecommunication infrastructure; inadequate space for services and functions; lack of fire sprinkler system; faulty electrical wiring; and leaking roof.

Needs of residents/response of proposed project to needs The needs assessment process included gathering input from government and other community organizations and from the residents via community workshops, phone interviews, a bilingual written survey sent to all households; input opportunities via the library Web site; and focus groups. Analysis of input and demographic data was thorough, leading to appropriate determination of library service needs. The needs assessment process included consideration of the needs of K-12 students and a study of the current state of school libraries.

The plan of service addresses the needs assessment findings. Goals and objectives lack clarity, and service indicators are not included. The plan of service is responsive to the needs of K-12 students by providing homework and computer centers for K-8 students and young adult, homework, and career centers for high school students. A family literacy center is included to provide ESOL assistance.

Library Bond Act Grant Applications - Cycle 1

Office of Library Construction Findings

The building program implements the plan of service, providing spaces to provide the services indicated in the plan. Spatial relationships and individual spaces are well described. The required special service areas are clearly shown.

The conceptual plans implement the building program requirements well. Both programmed and actual square footages are shown on the plan, but non-assignable square footage is not shown.

Joint Use Agreement: Computer Center, Homework Center, & Family Literacy Center The agreement represents a partnership with mutual benefits and responsibilities for both participants. Both parties will provide staffing and will collaborate and participate in the activities of the family literacy center and other library programming. The school district will also provide laptop PCs for parents to borrow. A committee will oversee the programs and assess their effectiveness.

Plan of Service Integrates Appropriate Technology Technology is seen as one of the solutions to providing library services but its integration is not described in detail in the planning documents. Technology is included appropriately in the building program. Specific technology uses include: ADA assistive areas; capability to plug-in laptop PCs in study rooms, homework center and literacy center; distance learning capability; teleconferencing capability in the conference rooms; LAN; Internet access; and wireless capability.

Appropriateness of Proposed Site The proposed site is centrally located and is adjacent to the historic civic center, which also includes the city hall, civic auditorium, senior center, police headquarters, and a city park. The site is accessible by public and private transportation, by bicycle, and by foot. Ample parking will be available for the library.

Financial Capacity The applicant has committed to the on-going operation of the completed library.